



APR 3679

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of )  
)  
THOMAS L. WELSH, )  
GLENN E. BURKET and )  
JOSEPH E. DICK )  
)  
Serial No. 09/975,917 )  
)  
Filed: October 10, 2001 )  
)  
For: CONNECTOR AND )  
METHOD OF )  
MANUFACTURE )  
)

Examiner: ERIC K. NICHOLSON

Group Art Unit 3679

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this correspondence was deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop NON-FEE Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, this 6th day of

October, 2003  
*Sherry L. Leonardi*  
Sherry L. Leonardi, Assistant to Shannon V. McCue, Reg. No. 42,859

Attorney Docket No. FLN.P.US0002

**TRANSMITTAL SHEET**

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Enclosed are the following documents:

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Amendment (w/attached Certificate of Mailing)

Return Receipt Postcard

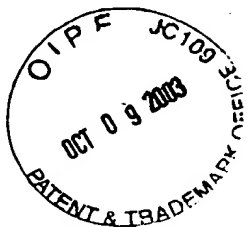
**AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE DEPOSIT ACCOUNT**

The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-0987.

Respectfully submitted,

*Shannon V. McCue*  
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First National Tower  
Fourth Floor  
Akron, Ohio 44308  
(330) 376-1242

October 6, 2003



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Sherry L. Leonardi  
Sherry L. Leonardi, Assistant to Shannon V. McCue, Reg. No. 42,859

Attorney Docket No. FLN.P.US0002

RESPONSE and AMENDMENT B PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.116

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
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Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated September 8, 2003, the Applicants, through their attorney, respond as follows:

AMENDMENTS to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS begin on page 6 of this paper.

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